(b) if so, what are the reasons for withholding the supply given by the U.S. authorities if any; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The equipment referred to is the Combined Acceleration Vibration & Climatic Test System (CAVCTS).

(b) The reasons have not been communicated to us.

(c) We have brought to the notice of the US Administration the fact that an export licence was given earlier and extended.

**Development of mind machine**

783. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that mind machine a computer device used for brain training, has been evolved which could be used for achieving a deeper level for relaxation increasing intelligence; and

(b) if so, whether Government are contemplating to use of these techniques for stress relief in work environments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

**Delay in launching of 'AGNI'**

784. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for delay in launching the 'Agni';

(b) whether the defects will, if any lead to complications in further experiments; and

(c) whether any foreign country had advised India not to lunch the 'Agni'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) The first scheduled launch of AGNI on 20 April 89 was postponed because one of the down-range telemetry reception stations had a problem. This being an experimental launch, it was necessary to get full telementry information to understand the flight performance of missile sub-systems. The second scheduled lauch on 1 May 1989 was postponed due to the detection of a data error in a sub-system of the first stage of the missile. The error was flagged by the computer-controlled count-down system and traced to a valve which unexpectedly failed. After valve replacement and necessary testing, the missile was successfully launched on 22 May 89.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Seven countries, USA, UK, Japan, France, West Germany, Italy and Canada concluded, in 1987, the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR). These countries have formulated guidelines, under MTCR, to control the transfer of technologies and equipments that could contribute to development by other nations to have capability to make ballistic missile. The MTCR reflects the apprehension of these countries regarding global

proliferation of ballistic missile. AGNI system has a range capability more than the limit of 300 km stipulated under MTCR.

**Charter of demands by the extra departmental employees of the Gujarat circle**

785. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharatiya Postal Extra Departmental (ED) Employees Gujarat Circle have submitted any Charter of demands to the Senior superintendent of Post Offices, Rajkot Division, Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The details of demands contained in the Charter of Demands submitted by the Rajkot Divisional Branch of Bharatiya Extra Departmental Employees Union in Gujarat Circle and the response of the Government thereto are indicated in the enclosed statement. [*See* Appendix CLI, Annexure No. 64].

**Resistance developed in malarial parasites against DDT**

786. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain varieties of malarial parasites have developed resistance to DDT;

(b) whether any study has been conducted to find out the ways, to control these parasites at the Central Vector Control Centre, Pondicherry and at any other Centre, and if so, the results thereof; and

(c) whether similar studies on resistance in other common Vectors, such as filaria, meningitis, Kala-Azar etc. have also been undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, certain varieties of Malarial Parasites like A. Culicifacies, A. Stephensi and A. annularis have been reported to have developed resistance to DDT and other commonly used pesticides.

(b) Yes, to overcome the problem of insecticides resistance and possible deleterious effect of alternate insecticides on non-target organisms, Vector Control Research Centre Pondicherry and Malaria Research Centre., Delhi have evolved a bioenvironmental control strategy. Field experiments at Kheda, Gujarat have demonstrated that bioenvironmental control of malaria instead of conventional method of insecticides application was feasible, and socially acceptable.

(c) Vector Control Research Centre Pondicherry and National Institute of Communicable Diseases have carried out studies on Filariasis and Kala-Azar.

**Raining of blood like fluid in Kanyakumari**

787. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a Press report which appeared in the Indian Express dated 30th April, 1989 regarding blood like fluid raining form the sky in a small village in Kanyakumari; and

(b) whether Government have investigated and analysed the phenomenon scientifically; if so, the details thereof?